

was caught in a steel trap, the latter having been set in a spring, where there were a number of small fish. When found it was dead, having been drowned, and its legs were more or less covered with fish scales. The trap was at least four or five inches below the surface of the water, which seems to show that the Owl must have plunged into the water in order to have got caught. This is the only instance in which I have known this species to enter the water for the purpose of securing fish.* — WILLARD E. TREAT, *East Hartford, Connecticut*.

Brewer's Blackbird near New Orleans.—I have in my possession a male Brewer's Blackbird (*Scolecophagus cyanocephalus*) in full plumage, shot a few miles from New Orleans on December 23, 1888. A small flock was seen, but only one was procured. — GUSTAVE KOHN, *New Orleans, Louisiana*.

The Chestnut-collared and Lapland Longspurs on Long Island, N. Y.—While hunting for Lapland Longspurs on February 16, my brother, J. H. Hendrickson, saw a bird which, on account of white feathers in its tail and generally dingy appearance, he thought was a Bay-winged Sparrow. He approached within five or six feet and hit it with a small stone, when it flew a short distance and he shot it. Upon examination I found it to be a Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*). It was found near the end of a filled-in, sandy road extending about six hundred feet into a salt marsh, and was entirely alone, no other birds being found within some distance of it. Upon skinning the bird I found it to be in good condition, slightly fat. I could not determine the sex. Upon reporting the above to Mr. William Dutcher, he informed me that it was not only a new record for Long Island (as I had supposed), but was the second record for the Eastern United States, the other being one taken in Massachusetts in July, 1876 (*vide* Brewer, Bull. Nuttall Ornith. Club, Vol. II, p. 78), and as such it will no doubt prove interesting.

On the same day (Feb. 16) my brother found a flock of eleven Lapland Longspurs (*Calcarius lapponicus*), one of which he shot. When first seen they were by themselves, but when shot at became mixed with a flock of thirty Shore Larks which began to quarrel with them as soon as they alighted, evidently trying to drive them away. This made the Longspurs restless and no more were shot. Next day (Sunday) my brother and I, armed only with an opera glass, went to look for more Longspurs. When coming over the edge of a small hill I flushed a flock of about a dozen Shore Larks, and noticed as they flew straight away from me that one bird in the flock had a noticeably white tail, similar to that of the Chestnut-collared Longspur mentioned above. This flock flew a hundred yards or so and alighted among a number of large boulders, and although I examined the ground carefully from a distance of forty yards or so (as

[*For a similar case see Bull. Nuttall Ornith. Club, Vol II, p. 80.—ED.]

near as I was able to get) I could not find the bird with the white tail. Upon trying to approach closer they flew sidewise to me, so that I could not see the tail-feathers very well, and went too far for us to follow them. On top of the hill I found one Lapland Longspur and approached within about thirty feet of it, when it took wing and, when flying, was joined by two more of its species and a couple of Shore Larks. The Lapland Longspurs when flying with Shore Larks resemble the latter so closely that they can only be distinguished by their note, which is so different that no mistake can possibly be made.

On Feb. 18 my brother found a flock of about forty Shore Larks, containing a few Lapland Longspurs, two of which he shot. On the 20th a few Lapland Longspurs were seen with a flock of Shore Larks, but were so wild that they were given up after about three hours of persistent hunting. On Feb. 22, my brother, a friend, and myself were out and saw two Lapland Longspurs in a flock of forty or fifty Shore Larks. They were very wild and flushed out of range, but flew back past us, when I recognized one of the Longspurs by its call and shot it. We have seen none since the 22d, although we have been over the ground on which they were found several times.—W. F. HENDRICKSON, *Long Island City, N. Y.*

Breeding of *Habia ludoviciana* in Niagara County, New York.—Although I have collected and made observations of birds in this County for the past ten years, not until the past season have I found the Rose-breasted Grosbeak breeding here. On May 26, 1888, I found in the edge of a piece of woods a nest about five feet from the ground, containing one egg, I was unable to identify. Returning on the 30th, I was surprised to find a male of this species on the nest. I stood within three feet of him for some time, but he did not move, and not until my hand was within a foot of him did he show any signs of leaving. There were now four eggs in the nest, and I left them till later so as to see the female on the nest. But on returning two hours afterward, I again found the male sitting. I took only the nest and eggs and on emptying them I found that incubation had begun in two of them, and concluded the male must have begun sitting as soon as the first egg was laid.

On June 8, in another piece of woods one mile from the other nest, I found another nest containing two young birds about three days old, and one egg which looked so clean that I took it and on emptying it found that incubation had just commenced. This time the female was on the nest, and was more reluctant to leave than the male had been in the other case, and not till my hand had nearly closed over her did she conclude to do so. The nest was at about the same elevation as the first.

On June 23, but a few rods from the last nest, I found another, with the male on, containing one young bird not over one or two days old, and three eggs. I took one, in which incubation was found to have begun about three days before. On the morning of July 4, I found that the first young bird had left the nest, and on passing in the afternoon found it on a small bush and secured it. I had but little trouble in raising it, as it